

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 IO-14 SR-02 ORM-03

DPW-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /118 W

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O 100830Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8898

CONFIDENTIAL SAIGON 19262

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PL, MILI, VS

SUBJECT: SITUATION IN QUANG DUC

HEREWITH FOL TEL FM NHA TRANG 0933 10 NOV 73 ACTION SAIGON

INFO USDAO SAIGON REPT'D FOR UR INFO QTE

CONFIDENTIAL NHA TRANG 0933

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: POL MILI VS

SUBJECT: SITUATION IN QUANG DUC

AOSOP-OR-IS-IX

1. ENEMY DISPOSITION. LATEST REPORTS INDICATE THE ENEMY HAS WITHDRAWN FROM THE DAK SONG AREA (YU 800 652), LEAVING A SMALL HARASSING FORCE (STRENGTH UNKNOWN). THE ENEMY IS BELIEVED TO BE RE-ENFORCING IN BU PRANG AND BU BONG. PROVINCE CHIEF STATES THAT INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM RETURNING RF AND REFUGEES INDICATED THAT APPROXIMATELY SIX-HUNDRED (600) ENEMY TROOPS ARE DIGGING IN ALONG QL 14 VIC YU 6845. ENEMY UNITS IDENTIFIED SO FAR ARE THE 205REGT OF 9TH NVA DIV AND THE 271ST INDEPENDENT REGT. UNCONFIRMED REPORTS LOCATE THE 272ND REGT, 9TH NVA DIV ON QL 14

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IN PHUOC LONG PROVINCE NEAR THE QUANG DUC BORDER (BICINITY

(YU 580 170) AND AN UNIDENTIFIED BN TO THE SOUTH OF GIA NGHIA.

2. FRIENDLY OB. ONE BN OF THE 42ND REGT 22ND DIV, TWO BNS 53RD REGT, 23RD DIV, THE 225TH RF BN, FROM DARLAC PROVINCE, AND FIFTEEN (15) APCS HAVE REINFORCED THE PROVINCE. ONE SQUAD OF TANKS (REPORTEDLY 3/19) WERE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IN DUC LAP YESTERDAY (9 NOVEMBER); THEIR ARRIVAL HAS NOT YET BEEN REPORTED. IN ADDITION, TEN REPLACEMENT TUBES OF 105 ARTILLERY ARE NOW IN QUANG DUC. AS OF THIS MORNING, NOVEMBER 10, OUR OF 967 RF SOLDIERS FROM THE TWO KHANH HOA BNS, 502 HAVE BEEN RECOVERED AND AIRLIFTED OUT OF QUANG DUC AND RETURNED TO NHA TRANG. MORE HAVE BEEN HEARD FROM AND WILL BE EVACUATED LATER.

3. FRIENDLY OPERATIONS. PROVINCE CHIEF QUANG DUC STATES THAT THE FRIENDLY FORCES WILL RETAKE DAK SONG WITHIN 3 DAYS; AT PRESENT ONE BN RF WITH APCS IS MOVING SOUTH ALONG QL 14 FROM DUC LAP AND IS WITHIN 5KMS. ONE BN OF THE 53RD IS MOVING NORTH ON TL-8B AND IS WITHIN 3KMS. THEY HAVE MET LIGHT RESISTANCE IN THE FORM OF NSNIPER FIRE SUSTAINING TWENTY (20) CASUALTIES THUS FAR. REMAINING ARVN FORCES ARE IN BLOCKING POSITIONS NORTH OF GIA NGHIA. PROVINCE CHIEF, QUANG DUC CONTINUES TO FEAR ATTACK ON GIA NGHIA FROM SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST. HE ALSO STATES THAT AFTER THE FRIENDLY FORCES SECURE DAK SONG THEY WILL MOVE TO RETAKE BU PRANG AND BU BONG. AT PRESENT THE MILITARY SITUATION IS CONSIDERED STABLE. HOWEVER, IF THE ENEMY IS DETERMINED TO HOLD BU PRANG AND PROTECT THEIR LCOS ALONG THE BORDER OF VN AND CAMBODIA, HEAVY FIGHTING CAN BE EXPECTED.

4. VNAF ACTIVITY DROPPED TO 4 SORTIES ON THE 9TH FROM 32 ON THE 8TH AND 22 ON THE 7TH. SPEAR BUNQTE MARTIN

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